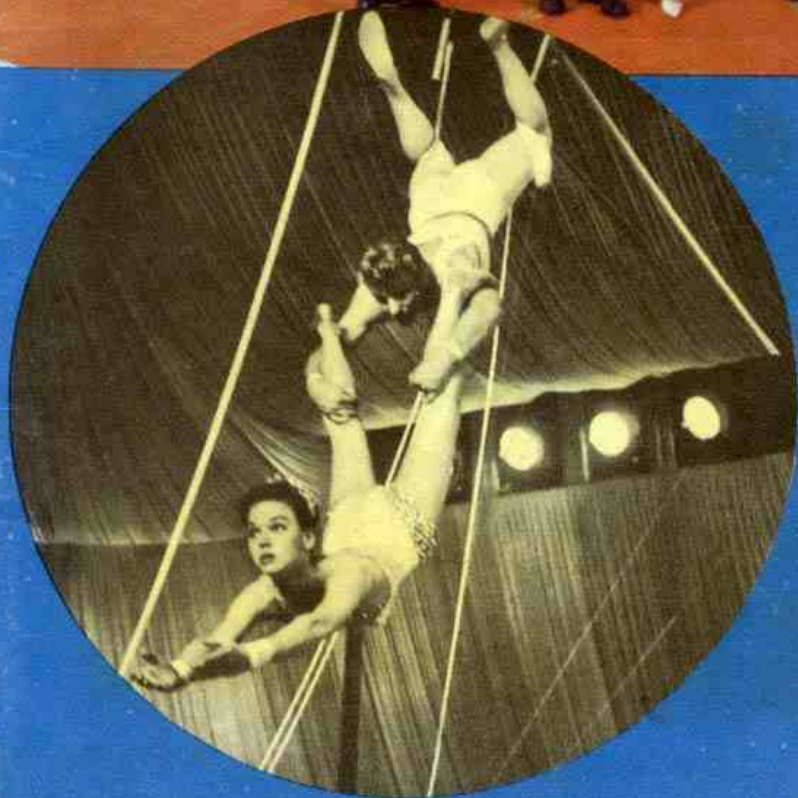
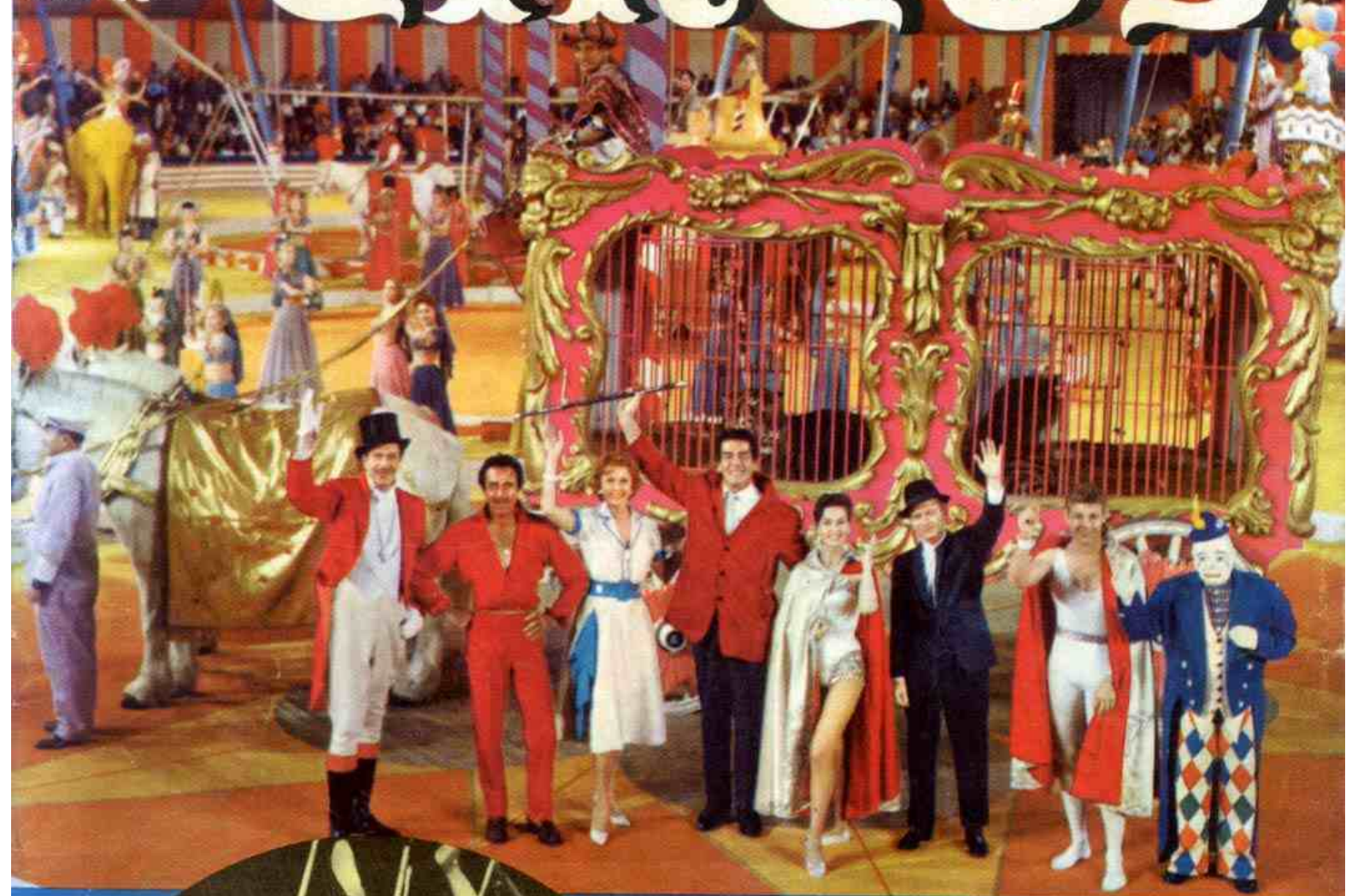


**DELL**  
Movie  
Classic

NO. 1036  
Still 10¢

# the BIG CIRCUS



The biggest  
show in  
the world!

AN IRWIN ALLEN PRODUCTION  
AN ALLIED ARTISTS PICTURE  
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ALLIED ARTISTS

Presents

VICTOR MATURE      RED BUTTONS  
RHONDA FLEMING

in  
IRWIN ALLEN'S  
Production of  
"THE BIG CIRCUS"

KATHRYN GRANT      VINCENT PRICE  
PETER LORRE      DAVID NELSON

And Co-Starring  
GILBERT ROLAND  
as the Aerialist  
In CINEMASCOPE® and TECHNICOLOR®  
Produced by Irwin Allen

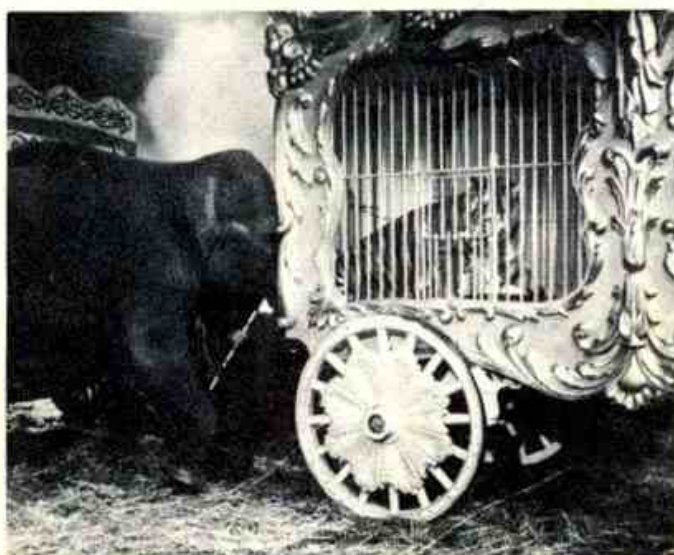
Directed by Joseph M. Newman  
Screenplay by Irwin Allen, Charles Bennett, and Irving Wallace  
Based on a story by Irwin Allen



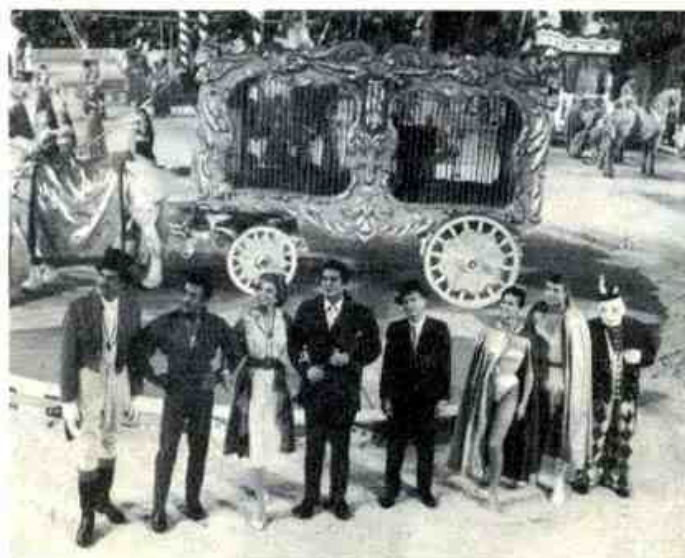
Whirling's big circus gets into ruinous financial difficulties . . .



And enlists the aid of a banker and a girl publicist.



The show continues to be mysteriously plagued with disasters . . .



And everyone in the circus becomes a suspect.



But an act of heroism again brings fame and security to the big top.



# THE BIG CIRCUS

ONE MORNING, ON ONE OF NEW YORK CITY'S BUSIEST STREETS, HENRY JASPER WHIRLING ARRIVES IN FRONT OF A LARGE AND STATELY BANKING INSTITUTION...

WAIT HERE! KEEP THE MUSIC GOING! THIS SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG!

GOOD LUCK, BOSS!

J.T. NELSON & Co.

LOOK AT THAT, WILL YOU! CRAZIEST SIGHT I'VE EVER SEEN! IT'S A CIRCUS WAGON!

WHIRLING'S SHOW

I'M SORRY, SIR... YOU CAN'T GO IN—

HENRY JASPER WHIRLING TO SEE J.T. NELSON!

GOOD MORNING, GENTLEMEN! WHICH ONE OF YOU IS MR. NELSON?

I AM! AND JUDGING BY YOUR UNUSUAL ENTRANCE YOU ARE MR. WHIRLING!

THE BIG CIRCUS, No. 1036. Published by Dell Publishing Co., Inc., 750 Third Avenue, New York 17, N. Y. George T. Delacorte, Jr., Publisher; Helen Meyer, President; Paul R. Lilly, Executive Vice-President; Harold Clark, Vice-Pres.-Advertising Director; Albert P. Delacorte, Treasurer. All rights reserved throughout the world. Authorized edition. Based on the movie "The Big Circus." Printed in U.S.A. Designed and produced by Western Printing & Lithographing Co. Copyright © 1959, by Saratoga Productions, Inc.

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THAT'S RIGHT! HANK WHIRLING, OWNER OF THE BIGGEST SHOW ON EARTH! NOW SUPPOSE WE GET RIGHT DOWN TO BUSINESS ON THE LOAN I ASKED FOR!

WE'VE DISCUSSED IT AT LENGTH, MR. WHIRLING...



WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE PREVIOUSLY COMBINED CIRCUSES OF "WHIRLING AND BORMAN" HAVE NOW BECOME INDEPENDENT SHOWS, AND THAT YOUR CIRCUS IS NOW IN WINTER QUARTERS IN CALIFORNIA, READY FOR TOURING IN A WEEK!



THAT'S ABOUT IT, BOYS! BUT WHY ALL THE FUSS? IT'S ONLY HALF A MILLION!

WE'RE PREPARED TO LOAN YOU THE MONEY, WHIRLING... BUT UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS...



RANDOLPH SHERMAN, OUR LOAN OFFICER, ADVISED STRONGLY AGAINST THIS LOAN! WE OVERRULED HIS OBJECTIONS, BUT AS A GUARDIAN OF OUR INVESTMENT, WE'RE SENDING HIM ALONG WITH YOU!

WHAT ???



YOU ARE A RATHER NOTORIOUS PERSON, MR. WHIRLING... ONE OF THE MOST RECKLESS SPENDERS IN EXISTENCE!

YOU HAVE TO SPEND MONEY TO MAKE IT!



PERHAPS... BUT THIS TIME I WILL HELP YOU MAKE THE DECISIONS ON HOW IT WILL BE SPENT! MY BAGS ARE PACKED AND I'M READY TO LEAVE!

I HAVE A FEELING I'M GOING TO HAVE BIG TROUBLE WITH THIS BANKER FELLOW!

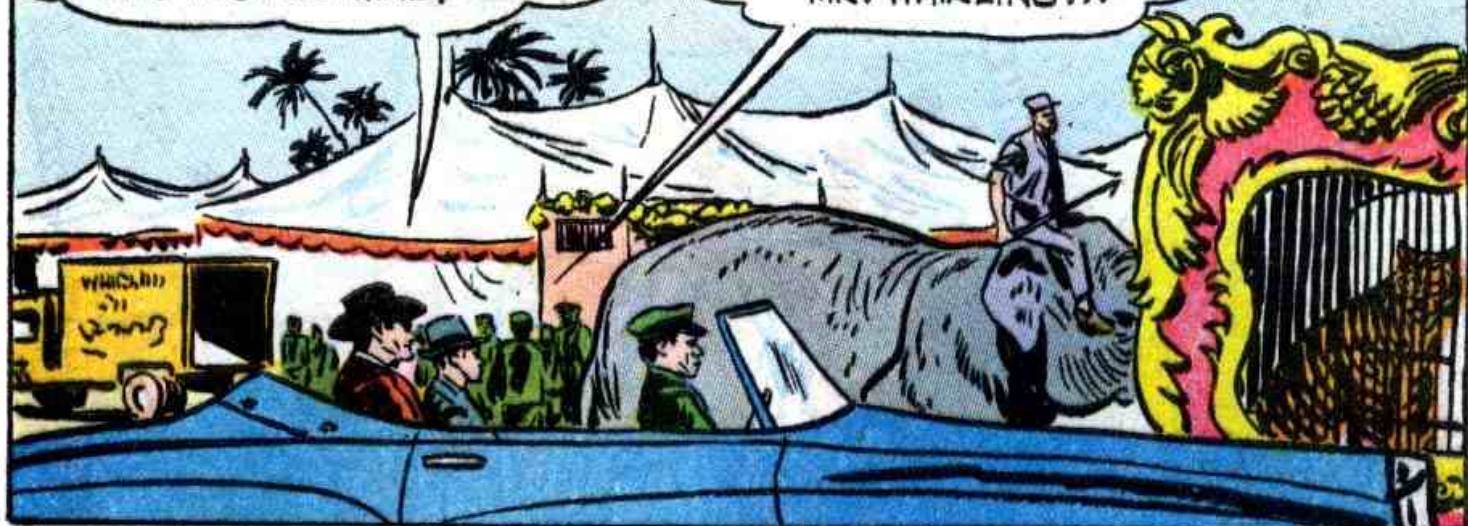




A FEW DAYS LATER, AT WHIRLING'S WINTER QUARTERS IN CALIFORNIA...

THERE IT IS, SHERMAN!  
THE BIGGEST SHOW ON EARTH!  
AND IT'S ALL MINE!

SUBJECT TO  
CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS,  
MR. WHIRLING...



A TEMPORARY  
CONDITION I'D  
LIKE TO FORGET!

I SEE YOUR  
CLOWN HAS  
ALREADY MET  
MISS HARRISON!



MISS HARRISON?  
WHO'S SHE?

YOUR NEW PRESS  
AGENT, MR. WHIRLING!  
MR. SHERMAN HIRED  
ME! I ARRIVED THIS  
MORNING WITH SOME  
OF YOUR PERFORMERS!



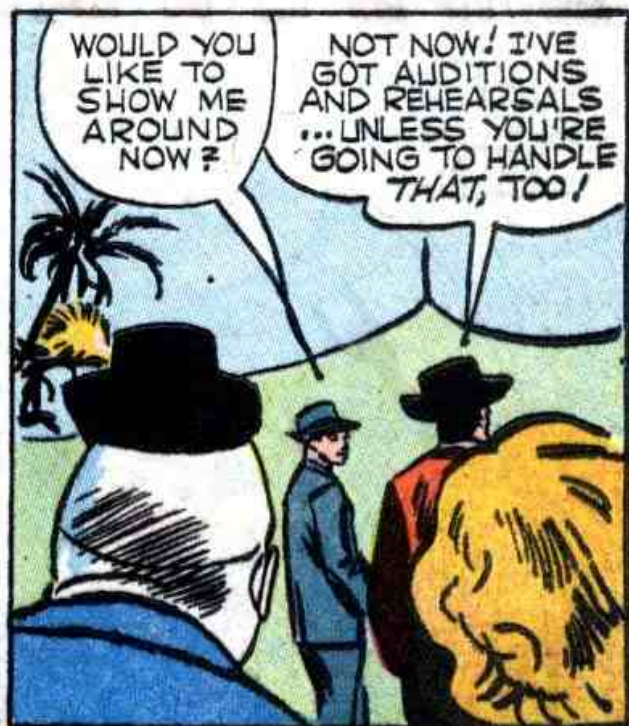
A WOMAN PRESS AGENT!  
I WON'T HAVE IT! NO  
FEMALE HAS EVER  
PUBLICIZED MY CIRCUS!  
ANYWAY, I DO THE  
HIRING AROUND HERE!

I'M AFRAID IT'S  
OUT OF YOUR  
HANDS, MR.  
WHIRLING! THE  
BANK AUTHORIZED  
ME TO ENGAGE  
MISS HARRISON...  
SHE'S THE BEST  
AVAILABLE!



WOULD YOU  
LIKE TO  
SHOW ME  
AROUND  
NOW?

NOT NOW! I'VE  
GOT AUDITIONS  
AND REHEARSALS  
...UNLESS YOU'RE  
GOING TO HANDLE  
THAT, TOO!





THE CLOWN, SKEETER, OFFERS TO SHOW RANDY SHERMAN AROUND THE CIRCUS...

THE RINGMASTER IS HANS HAGENFELD! HE'S THE BEST IN THE BUSINESS!

I'D NEVER REALIZED THERE WAS SO MUCH TO A CIRCUS!



THOSE ARE THE FLYING COLINOS... ZACH AND MAMA COLINO, AND TOMMY GORDON, THE "CATCHER"...

MAKES ME DIZZY JUST WATCHING THEM!



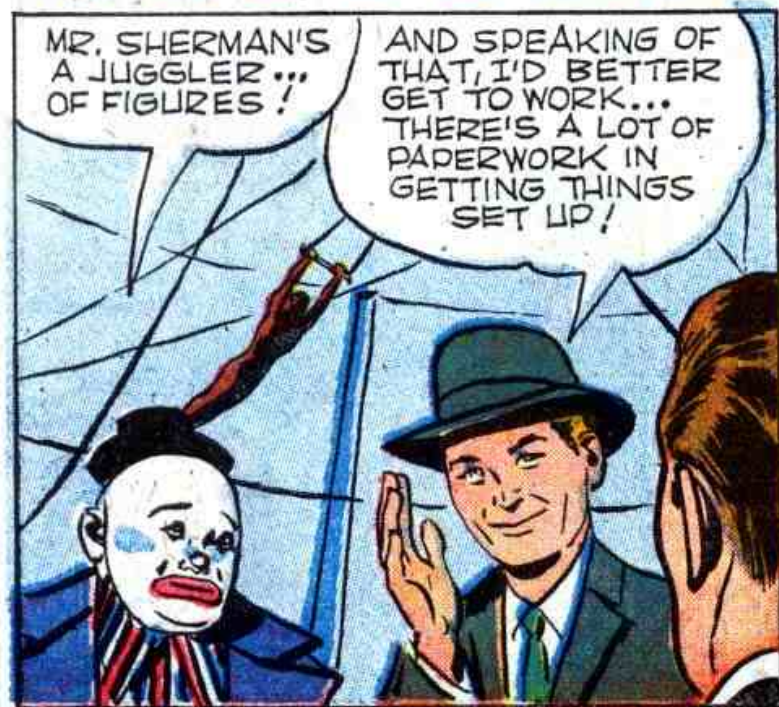
HANS, MEET RANDY SHERMAN!

GLAD TO KNOW YOU, MR. SHERMAN! WHAT'S YOUR ACT?



MR. SHERMAN'S A JUGGLER... OF FIGURES!

AND SPEAKING OF THAT, I'D BETTER GET TO WORK... THERE'S A LOT OF PAPERWORK IN GETTING THINGS SET UP!



A FEW DAYS LATER...

I'VE HAD IT, RANDY! THESE LAST THREE DAYS HAVE CONVINCED ME WHY THE CIRCUS IS A DYING INSTITUTION!

WHAT'S WRONG?







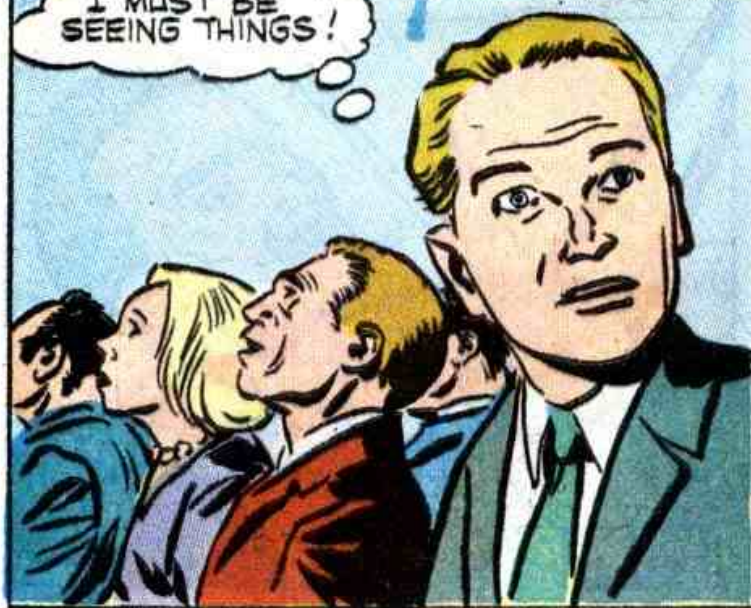






LATER, AS THE CROWD WATCHES ZACH COLINO ON THE HIGH WIRE...

I MUST BE SEEING THINGS!



A LION!  
IT MUST HAVE GOTTEN LOOSE!



MR. WHIRLING...  
LOOK! I JUST SAW IT—

GRAGHHH!



WHIRLING ACTS QUICKLY...

STAND STILL EVERYONE!  
DON'T ANYONE MOVE!



SLOWLY, HANK WHIRLING EDGES TOWARD THE LION...

CAN'T SOMEONE SHOOT IT?

THAT WOULD COST YOUR BANK TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS, MR. SHERMAN!



SUDDENLY...

GRROWW!





HIGH ABOVE THE ARENA, ZACH COLINO SEES A WAY TO HELP...

I HOPE THIS WORKS!



ZACH SLIDES DOWN THE SLANTING WIRE, STRIKING OUT AT THE NET RELEASE ROPES...



AND SECONDS LATER...

ROLL IN A CAGE!  
HOLD THE NET  
DOWN!



A SHORT TIME LATER...

SOME STUNT, WHIRLING... SCARING  
WOMEN— ENDANGERING LIVES SO  
YOUR HIGH WIRE WALKER CAN COP  
THE FRONT PAGE HEADLINES!

NOW WAIT A MINUTE!  
I DIDN'T—



TUCKER'S RIGHT!  
THAT STUNT WAS  
A PHONY!

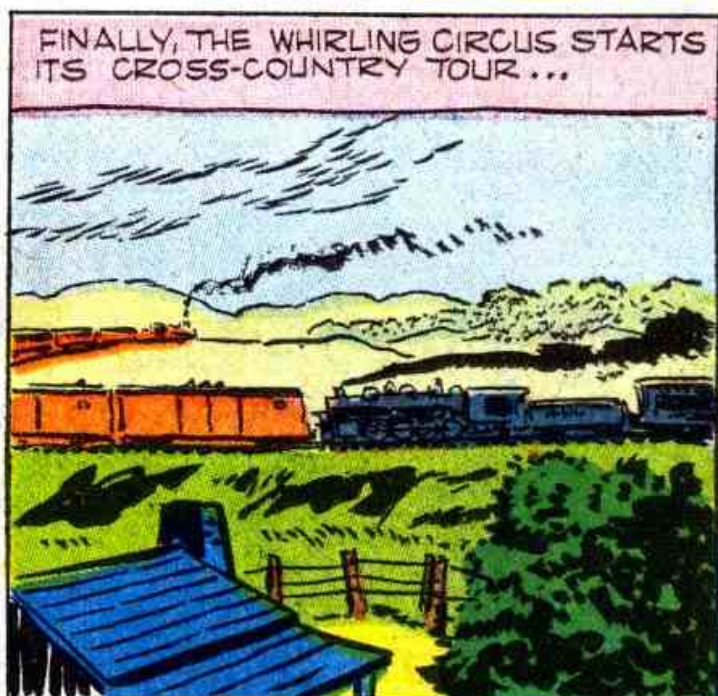
LEAVE IT TO  
HANK WHIRLING  
TO FIGURE OUT A  
CHEAP PIECE OF  
BALLYHOO LIKE  
THIS!



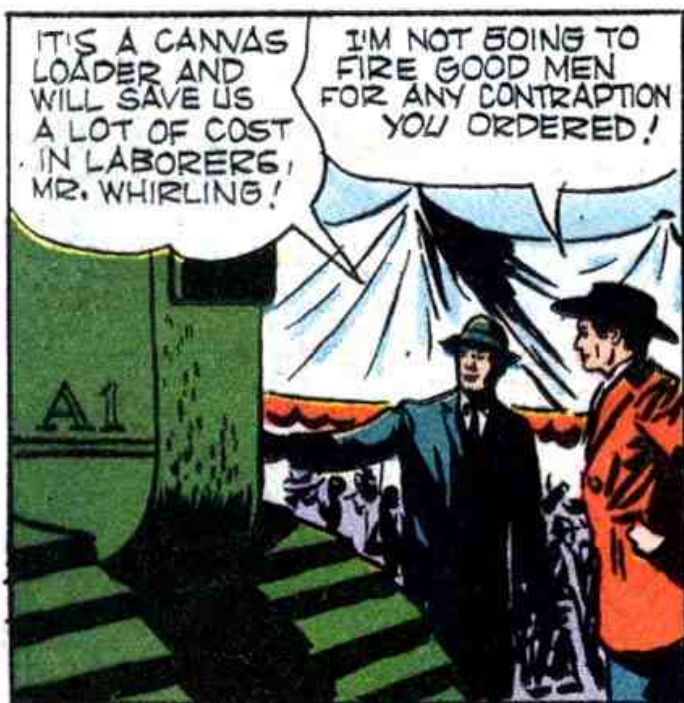
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE!  
I'M THE PRESS AGENT HERE— NOT  
MR. WHIRLING! WHAT YOU SAW JUST  
NOW WAS NOT A STUNT! AND AS FOR  
SEEKING HEADLINES, YOU'RE WRONG!  
I EARNESTLY BEG YOU NOT TO PRINT  
THIS STORY! THE CIRCUS IS A  
DISPENSER OF FUN...  
NOT FEAR!













THE BLAZING STACK OF HAY SWAYS DANGEROUSLY...

WE CAN'T GET THOSE ANIMALS OUT IN TIME!

THERE MIGHT BE ONE CHANCE!



WHAT IS HE GOING TO DO?

HANK! COME BACK! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!



HANK WHIRLING DRIVES THE JEEP INTO THE ROARING INFERNO...

HE KNOCKED THE BURNING HAY AWAY FROM THE TENT!

HANK!



NICE WORK, MR. WHIRLING!

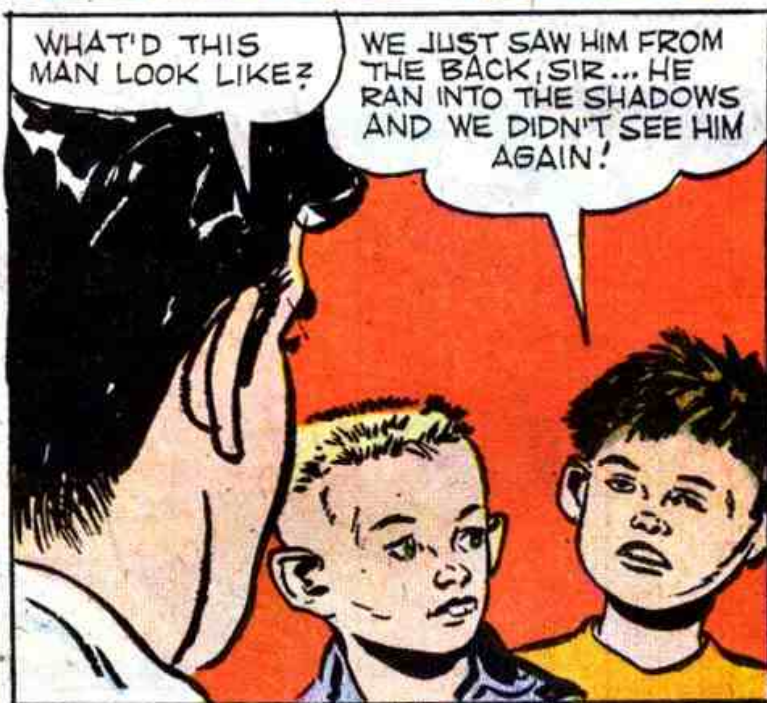
THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE NOT HURT!



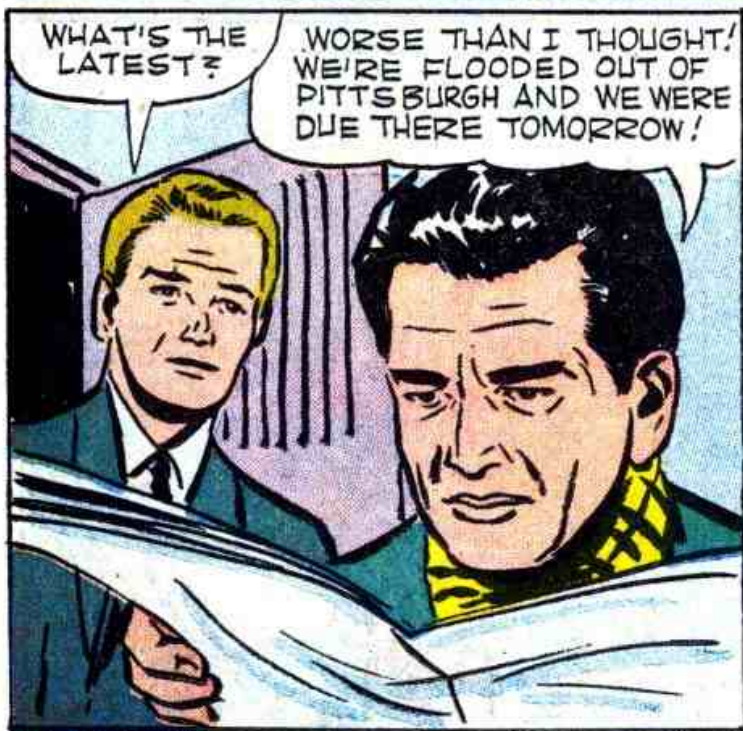
THIS IS THE END OF IT, SHERMAN! THE WHOLE CIRCUS MIGHT HAVE GONE UP IN FLAMES! TELL YOUR BANK I WANT OUT OF THE DEAL... AND I WANT YOU OUT OF THIS CIRCUS BY MORNING!



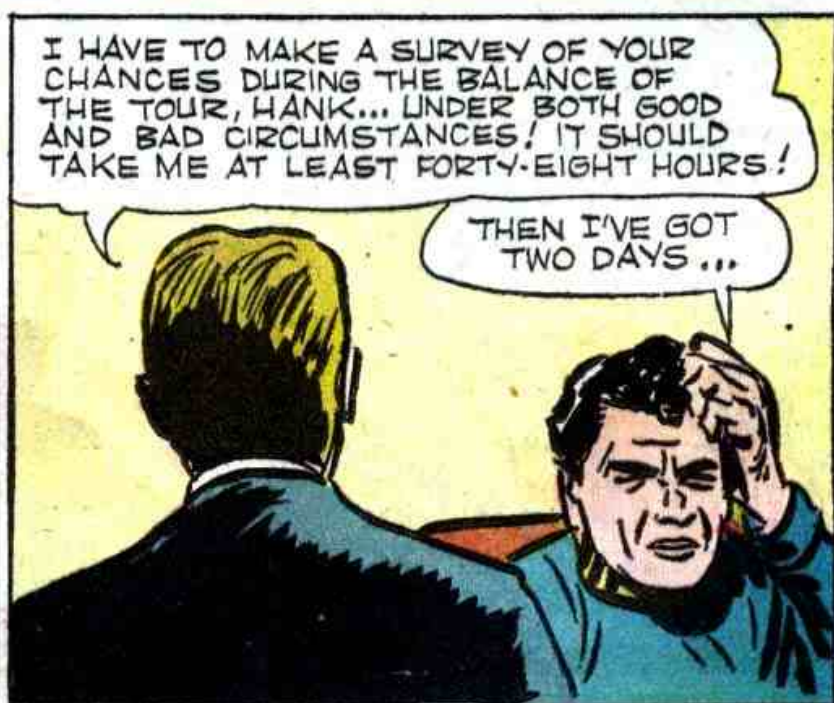




















THEN YOU DO CARE! I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D EVER GET AROUND TO LETTING ME KNOW!



AS THE FORTY-EIGHT HOURS DRAW TO A CLOSE, HANK WHIRLING RETURNS FROM HIS TRIP...

I'VE GOT MY MIRACLE, RANDY! WE'RE GOING INTO NEW YORK!

WE'RE WHAT?

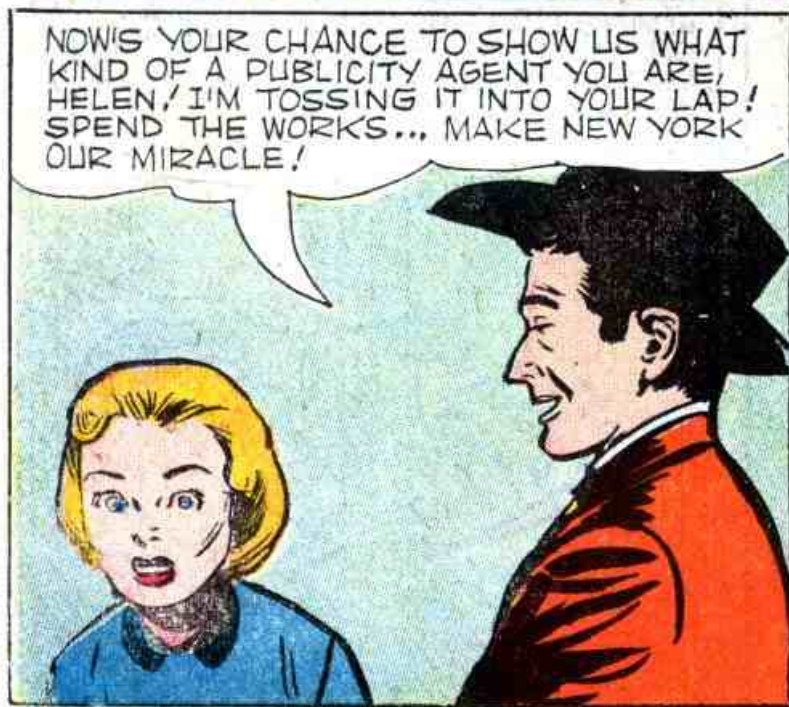


BUT WE'VE GOT THE WHOLE TOUR ALREADY BOOKED!

IF THE BANK FORECLOSED, THE TOUR WOULD BE CANCELLED ANYWAY! SO I CANCELLED IT MYSELF! WE'LL GRAB THAT ONE NIGHT STAND IN NIAGARA AND OPEN IN MANHATTAN TWO DAYS LATER!



THE BORMAN CIRCUS GOES INTO MADISON SQUARE GARDEN IN SIX WEEKS! IF WE JUMP INTO A CIRCUS-HUNGRY NEW YORK FIRST, WE COULD CLEAN UP! WE CAN'T GET THE GARDEN, BUT I LINED UP A GOOD SPOT!



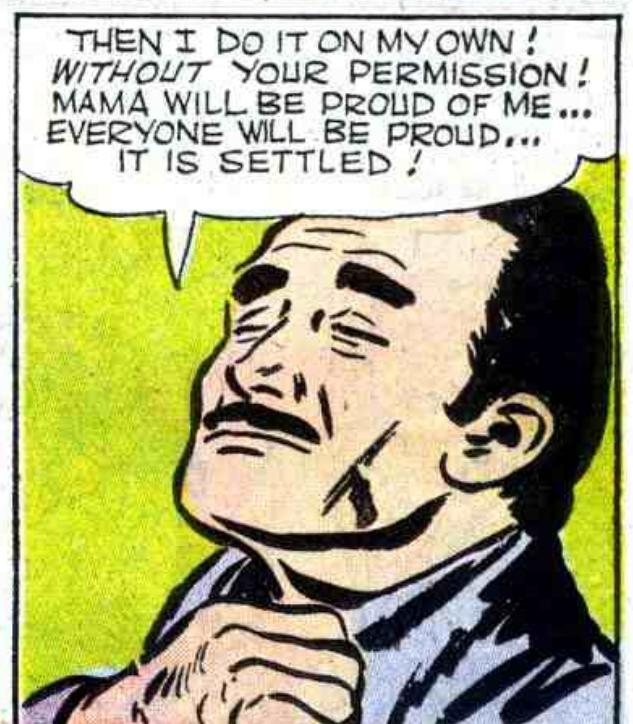
NOW'S YOUR CHANCE TO SHOW US WHAT KIND OF A PUBLICITY AGENT YOU ARE, HELEN! I'M TOSSING IT INTO YOUR LAP! SPEND THE WORKS... MAKE NEW YORK OUR MIRACLE!



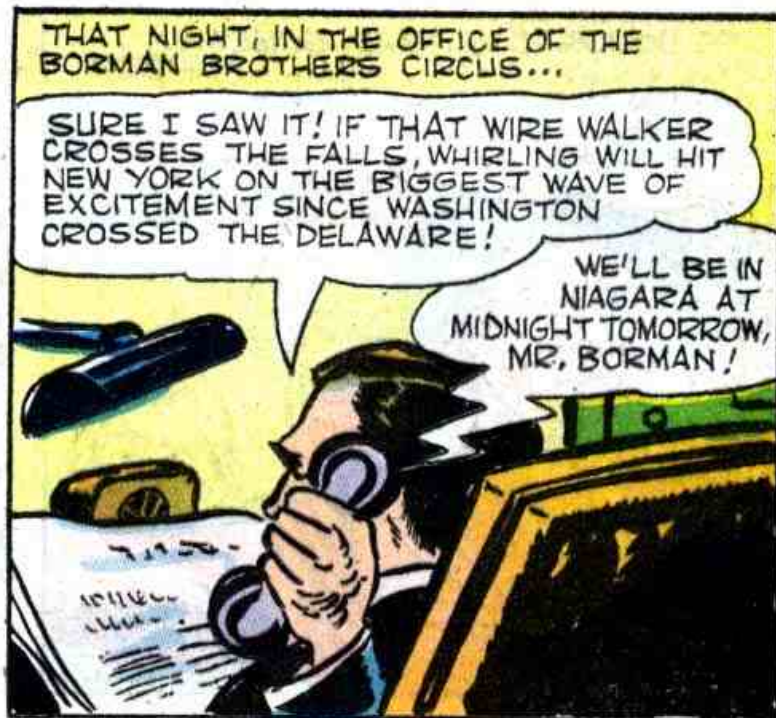
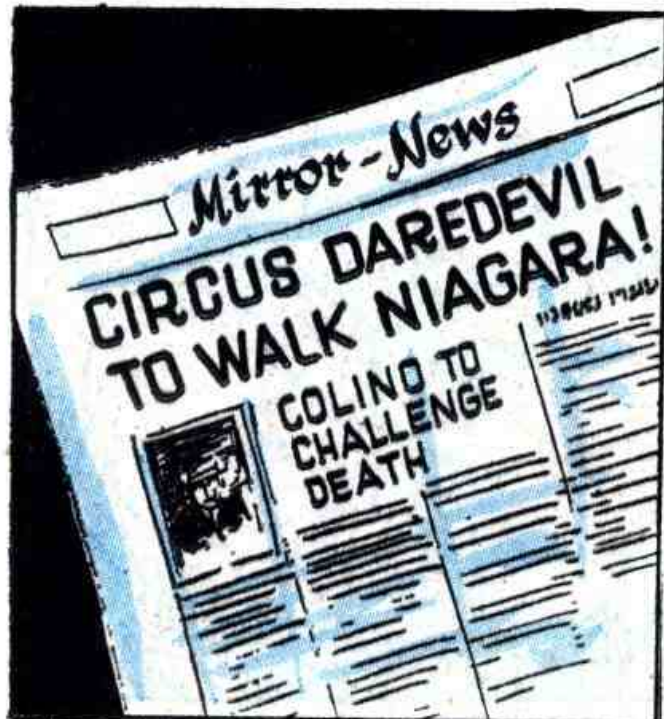
IT JUST MIGHT WORK... IF... IF WE HAD A STUNT...

STUNT?









THAT NIGHT, IN THE OFFICE OF THE BORMAN BROTHERS CIRCUS...

SURE I SAW IT! IF THAT WIRE WALKER CROSSES THE FALLS, WHIRLING WILL HIT NEW YORK ON THE BIGGEST WAVE OF EXCITEMENT SINCE WASHINGTON CROSSED THE DELAWARE!

WE'LL BE IN NIAGARA AT MIDNIGHT TOMORROW, MR. BORMAN!



THAT TRAIN YOU'RE ON IS RUNNING IN TWO SECTIONS JUST LIKE ALWAYS! YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO!

DON'T WORRY! I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT!



LATER THAT SAME NIGHT, THE WHIRLING TRAINS SPEED THROUGH THE NIGHT, HEADING FOR NIAGARA FALLS...



STOP WORRYING, HELEN... ZACH IS THE GREATEST! HE'LL MAKE IT!

NOT IF I CAN TALK HIM OUT OF IT! I WANTED TO TRY AND PERSUADE MAMA COLINO TONIGHT, BUT SHE'S IN THE FORWARD SECTION WITH A SICK GIRL, SALLY HOPPER...



SUDDENLY, THE TRAIN GIVES A GRINDING LURCH...

SOMETHING'S WRONG! WE'RE STOPPING!

SCREECH!





IT'S UP AHEAD...  
I CAN SEE  
LIGHTS! IT...IT  
LOOKS LIKE  
A FIRE!

BAD NEWS, MR.  
WHIRLING...HAPPENED  
FIFTEEN MINUTES AGO  
...I...I JUST TALKED  
TO THE ENGINEER...



TRAIN WRECK...  
FOUR CARS IN A  
GULLY... TEN  
INJURED, TWO  
DEAD! IT WAS OUR  
TRAIN! THE  
OTHER SECTION!

OH,  
NO!

WHO,  
HANS?  
WHO  
WERE  
THEY?



THE LITTLE GIRL, SALLY HOOPER  
... AND... MAMA COLINO...

MAMA!



AND SHORTLY...

...SO IT SEEMS THAT IT WAS  
SABOTAGE, MR. WHIRLING...  
SOMEBODY TAMPERED WITH  
THAT JOURNEY BOX...WHEEL  
DROPPED OFF AND  
DERAILED THE CARS...

HOW LONG  
BEFORE  
THESE CARS  
CAN BE BACK  
ON THE  
TRACKS?



TRACKS ARE OUT, SIR! GOT TO FIX  
'EM FIRST! I'D SAY YOU FOLKS ARE  
STUCK HERE THREE DAYS AT LEAST...  
COULD GO BY THE ROAD BUT IT'S A  
GOOD TWENTY MILES OF MOUNTAIN  
TERRAIN!

WE HAVE TO MAKE  
NIAGARA! NOW MORE  
THAN EVER!



TWO THOUSAND YEARS AGO A GLY  
NAMED HANNIBAL CROSSED THE ALPS  
WITH THE HELP OF FORTY ELEPHANTS!  
WHEN IT COMES TO ELEPHANTS, WE'VE  
GOT HANNIBAL OUTNUMBERED!  
WE'RE CROSSING THAT MOUNTAIN!



LEAVING THE TRAIN, THE WHIRLING CIRCUS MOVES ON THROUGH THE APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN COUNTRY... A GAUDY, FANTASTIC PROCESSION THAT MOVES SLOWLY AND WITH SADNESS BECAUSE OF THE TRAGEDY IN ITS FAMILY...



BUT THE NEXT DAY THE CIRCUS OPENS ON SCHEDULE IN NIAGARA...

THE BIGGEST HOUSE WE'VE EVER PLAYED TO... NOT AN EMPTY SEAT ANY PLACE! STILL THINK IT WAS TOO BIG A GAMBLE TO SWITCH THE TOUR?

NOT ONLY TOO BIG, BUT TOO COSTLY! TWO DEATHS AND A TRAIN WRECK ARE TOO MUCH TO PAY FOR ANYTHING!



AND NOW... IN THE CENTER RING, THE GREATEST CIRCUS PERFORMER OF ALL TIME... IT IS MY GREAT HONOR TO PRESENT... ZACH COLINO!



HOW IS HE, TOMMY? THINK HE'LL MAKE IT?

WHO KNOWS? HE HASN'T SPOKEN A WORD SINCE SHE DIED! FIRST TIME IN TEN YEARS HE'S APPEARED IN A CIRCUS WITHOUT MAMA!

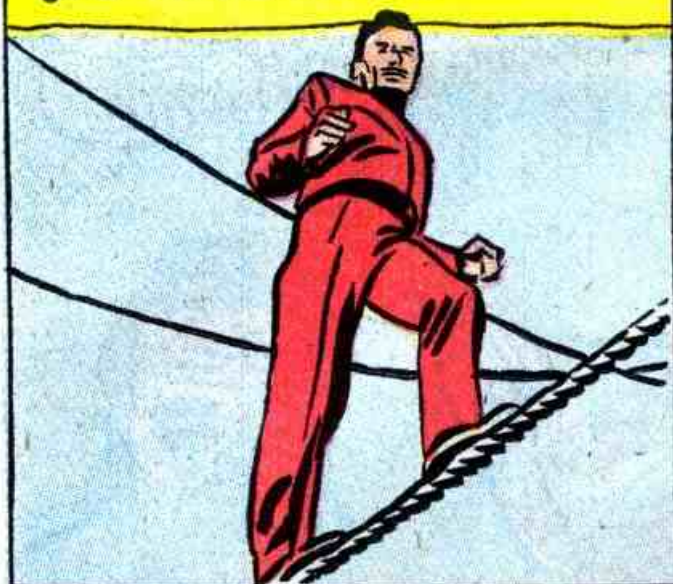


TO A CIRCUS PERFORMER, THERE'S NO MEDICINE IN THE WORLD LIKE THOSE CHEERS! I HOPE IT WORKS ON ZACH...





THERE IS AN ELECTRIC EXPECTANCY IN THE AIR AS ZACH STARTS OUT ONTO THE HIGH WIRE ...



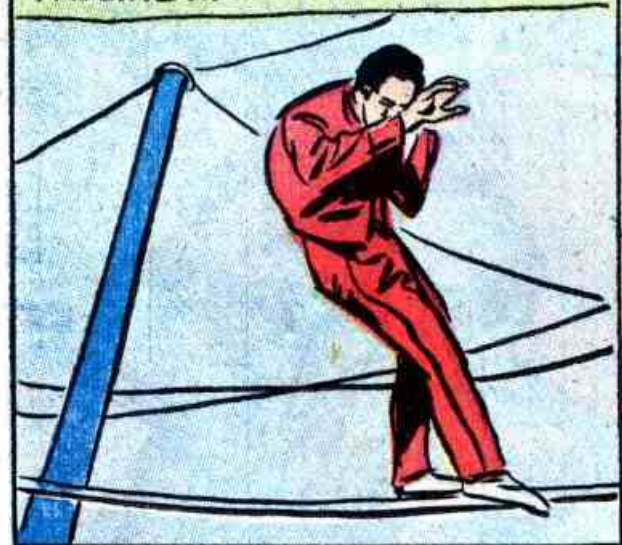
BUT THEN, THE CROWD SENSES THAT SOMETHING IS WRONG WITH THE GREAT COLINO...

BOSS\_!!

IT'S ALL OVER, TOMMY... HE'S LOST HIS NERVE!



ZACH SHUDDERS... HIS HAND COMES TO HIS EYES... HE SWAYS ...AND THEN HE IS FALLING... FALLING...



...LANDING IN THE NET BELOW AS GASPS COME FROM THE AUDIENCE ...

THAT'S THE END OF IT, RANDY! NOT ONLY OF POOR ZACH BUT OF NIAGARA FALLS...NEW YORK... AND THE WHIRLING CIRCUS! UNLESS...



A FEW MINUTES LATER, IN ZACH'S WAGON...

YOU HEAR ME, ZACH? YOU'RE YELLOW! I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO WALK THE FALLS... YOU VOLUNTEERED!

BUT...I COULD NEVER MAKE IT... I'M ...SICK...



SURE YOU ARE! YOU'RE SUFFERING FROM "LOSS OF NERVE"!

YOU SAY THAT TO ME AFTER A FRIENDSHIP OF TWENTY YEARS... TO ME, THE KING OF ALL WIRE WALKERS!





EX-KING, YOU MEAN! WHEN THE STORY  
HITS THE PAPERS TOMORROW... THAT  
YOU'RE AFRAID TO WALK THE FALLS...  
BROTHER, YOU'VE HAD IT!

BUT... MAMA'S  
DEAD...



EVERYBODY DIES! YOU... ME... MAMA  
... EVERYBODY! AT LEAST SHE'S  
SPARED THE SIGHT OF YOU TURNING  
COWARD AND THE CIRCUS GOING  
BANKRUPT!

BANKRUPT...?



YES! YOU... ME... AND ALL YOUR  
FRIENDS... EVERYBODY DOWN THE  
DRAIN, BECAUSE YOU'RE YELLOW!  
EVEN MAMA WOULD SAY IT!  
\*ZACH'S YELLOW!!

NO!



TOMORROW, I'LL WALK YOUR FALLS!  
FOR MAMA, NOT FOR YOU! IT MAY BE  
THE LAST TRICK I EVER TRY! IF I  
SUCCEED, I'LL KILL YOU FOR WHAT  
YOU SAID TONIGHT!



A MOMENT LATER...

OF ALL THE  
CHEAP, FILTHY  
TRICKS!

EAVESDROPPING,  
EH?









THE NEXT DAY, AT THE NIAGARA FALLS...

ZACH COLINO'S UP THERE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN... THE CLIFF DROPS AWAY A FULL TWO HUNDRED FEET. THAT WIRE IS A SIGHT TO SEE... MUST BE A THOUSAND FEET OF IT. IT STRETCHES AWAY ACROSS THE RAPIDS... WITH THE FALLS THUNDERING DOWN BELOW...



HANK, HELEN, AND HANS WAIT ON THE CANADIAN SIDE OF THE FALLS...

I... THINK ZACH'S GETTING READY TO START...

OH... I'M MORE NERVOUS THAN HE IS!



A MOMENT LATER, ZACH STARTS THE TERRIFYING WALK FROM THE AMERICAN SIDE...

GOOD LUCK, ZACH!

HAVE A NICE STROLL! SEE YOU IN CANADA!



THIS IS IT! ZACH COLINO... THE GREATEST WIRE WALKER IN THE WORLD TODAY... STEPPING OUT ONTO THE WIRE... THE FIRST TIME IN A HUNDRED YEARS ANYONE HAS DARED THE STUNT!

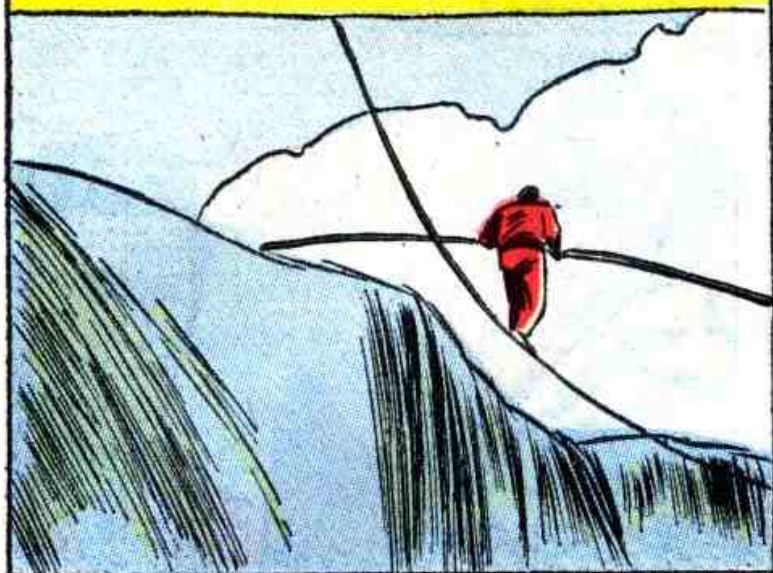


ZACH MOVES OUT OVER THE YAWNING CHASM... ADVANCING SLOWLY... BALANCING HIMSELF CAREFULLY...





AND AS THE MOMENTS PASS, HE CONTINUES HIS DANGEROUS JOURNEY ACROSS THE SWAYING WIRE...



BUT THEN, AS HE REACHES THE POINT OF NO RETURN...



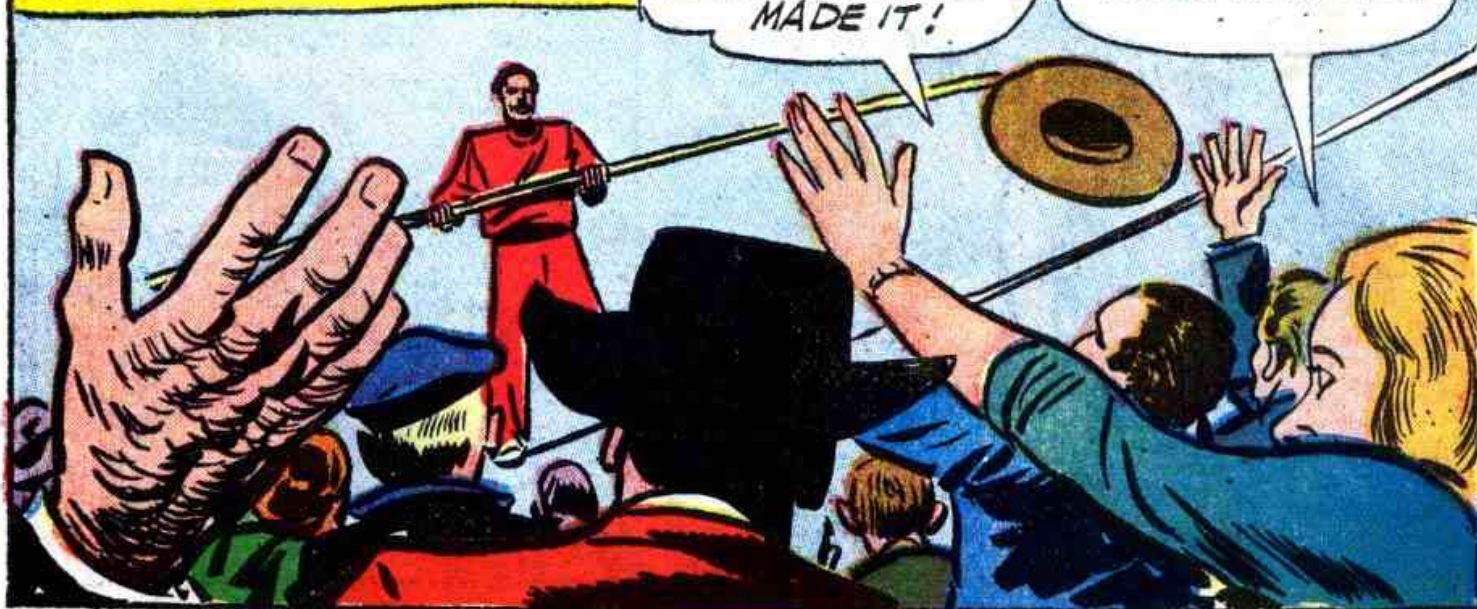
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN... THIS COULD BE SERIOUS... THE WIND IS BEGINNING TO PICK UP! COLINO IS HAVING A HARD TIME KEEPING HIS BALANCE... BUT... HE'S GOING ON...



ONLY A LITTLE FARTHER... I MUST MAKE IT... I MUST!



THE CROWD GOES WILD AS ZACH REACHES THE CANADIAN SIDE OF THE FALLS...



HE MADE IT! ZACH COLINO'S MADE IT!

NEW YORK — HERE WE COME!





THE CROWD'S IN AN UPROAR! THE GREATEST FEAT OF ITS KIND IN A HUNDRED YEARS... ACHIEVED BY ZACH COLINO, ONE OF HISTORY'S GREATEST DAREDEVILS!



I SAID I'D WALK THE FALLS AND KILL YOU AFTER IT WAS DONE... BUT OUT THERE IT CAME TO ME... YOU'RE NOT WORTH IT, HANK!

YOU'VE SAVED THE CIRCUS FOR ME, ZACH!



NOT FOR YOU... FOR MY PALS, WHO PUT THEIR MONEY IN YOUR SHOW... WHO DEPEND ON IT FOR THEIR LIVING!

ZACH, YOU'RE WRONG ABOUT THIS! HANK HAD A REASON FOR MAKING YOU WALK NIAGARA!



SURE HE HAD... TO PUT HIMSELF ON TOP OF THE WORLD! WELL, HE'S WAY UP THERE AGAIN... BECAUSE OF ME!

I'M SORRY THAT YOU FEEL THAT WAY, ZACH...



HE... REALLY DOESN'T UNDERSTAND, HANK! HE'S ALIVE AGAIN... BUT IT'S YOU WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE!

THANKS, HELEN!



I HOPE HE FINDS THE TRUTH SOMEDAY... BUT RIGHT NOW, WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO... IN NEW YORK!



TWO DAYS LATER, THE CIRCUS OPENS IN NEW YORK...

STEP RIGHT IN, MY FRIENDS...  
THE BIGGEST SHOW ON EARTH... THE  
FAMOUS WHIRLING CIRCUS... INCLUDING  
THE MAN YOU ALL WANT TO SEE... THE  
HERO OF THE SPECTUACULAR ACHIEVEMENT  
AT NIAGARA FALLS... ZACH COLINO, HIMSELF!



AND AT THAT MOMENT, IN ZACH'S WAGON...

YOU'RE  
WHAT?

YOU HEARD ME RIGHT, RANDY!  
TONIGHT I'M TAKING  
MAMA'S PLACE... ON THE  
HIGH TRAPEZE! I'M  
GOING TO FLY!



BUT, YOU KNOW  
HOW HANK FEELS!  
HE WON'T ALLOW  
IT!

HE WON'T EVEN  
KNOW IT, UNTIL  
I'M UP THERE!



BESIDES, WITH  
TOMMY CATCHING  
ME, I HAVEN'T GOT  
A THING TO WORRY  
ABOUT! RIGHT,  
TOMMY?

RIGHT, JEANNIE!  
I'LL SEE YOU IN  
THE BIG TOP  
SOON AS I GET  
CHANGED!



A FEW MINUTES LATER,  
THE SHOW GETS UNDER  
WAY...

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN...  
CALLING YOUR ATTENTION  
TO RING NUMBER TWO...  
I PRESENT THE WORLD'S  
GREATEST ANIMAL TRAINER,  
THE GREAT DANTON TIBERIO!







AS THE SHOW GOES ON, A SHADY FIGURE MAKES A PHONE CALL...

MR. BORMAN...  
IT'S ME...

ABOUT TIME YOU  
CALLED! CAN'T YOU  
DO SOMETHING? IF  
TONIGHT'S SHOW GOES  
OVER, WHIRLING WILL HAVE  
US BEAT FOR GOOD!



THE SHOW, MR. BORMAN, WILL COME  
TO A SUDDEN AN UNHAPPY END IN  
JUST ABOUT FIVE MINUTES FLAT!



THERE'S GONNA BE AN ACCIDENT,  
MR. BORMAN... A REAL BAD  
ACCIDENT...



AS HANK HEADS FOR THE BIG TOP...

HEY, BOSS... THERE'S A POLICE  
LIEUTENANT WANTING TO SEE  
YOU IN YOUR WAGON!

OKAY,  
SKEETER...  
THANKS!



NOW IT IS MY HONOR AND  
PLEASURE TO PRESENT  
THE STUNNING... THE  
DEATH-DEFYING... THE  
WORLD FAMOUS  
FLYING COLINOS!





ZACH, JEANNIE, AND TOMMY BEGIN TO PERFORM THE ACT...



AND AT THAT SAME MOMENT, IN HANK'S WAGON...

THIS WILL BE A SHOCK TO YOU, MR. WHIRLING, BUT A FINGERPRINT CHECK SHOWED US WHO THE MAN IS THAT WRECKED THE TRAIN! THE MURDERER'S BEEN WITH YOU ALL ALONG!

WHO IS HE?



HIS NAME, SIR, IS TOMMY GORDON!

TOMMY?... HANK! JEANNIE'S UP THERE WITH HIM... ON THE HIGH TRAPEZE!



JEANNIE! BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND! HOW...?

THERE'S NO TIME TO EXPLAIN! WE'VE GOT TO STOP THEM!



THE GROUP REACHES THE BIG TOP, BUT THE ROAR OF THE CROWD AND THE BLARE OF THE BAND MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR JEANNIE TO HEAR THEIR FRANTIC CRIES...

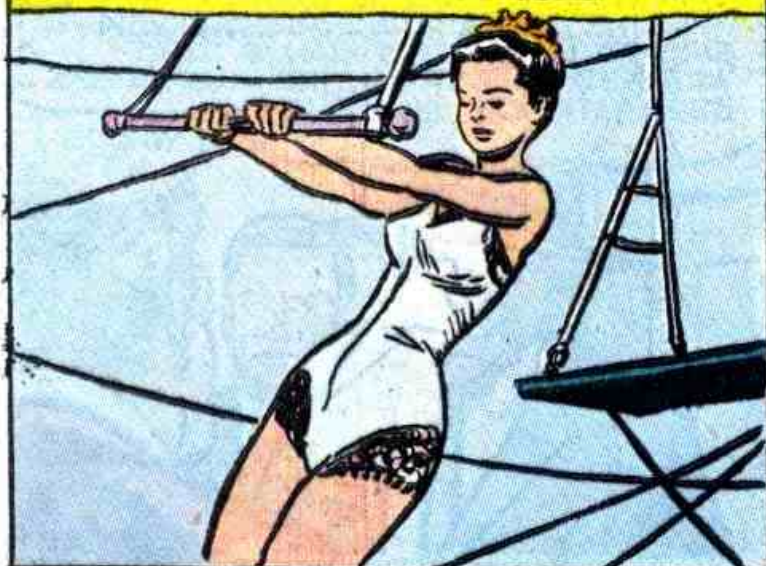
JEANNIE! DON'T FLY! DON'T DO IT!

SHE CAN'T HEAR YOU, HANK!





JEANNIE SWINGS GRACEFULLY ON THE TRAPEZE, READY TO PERFORM THE DANGEROUS STUNT FOR THE FIRST... AND MAYBE THE LAST TIME...



SHE COMPLETES A MID-AIR SOMERSAULT, REACHES OUT FOR TOMMY'S HANDS...



BUT...

HE MISSED HER!  
SHE'S FALLING!  
SHE'LL OVERSHOOT  
THE NET!



JEANNIE PLUMMETS  
DOWNWARD...



ZACH COLINO, SEEING JEANNIE DIVING  
TO HER DEATH, ALSO DIVES, WITH A  
SPEED WHICH IS STARTLING...



AND LIKE A CONTROLLED BULLET,  
ZACH 'SHOULDERS' JEANNIE  
TOWARD THE SAFETY OF THE NET  
BELOW...





APPLAUSE SWEEPS THE TENT AS THE NEAR FATAL ACCIDENT APPEARS TO THE CROWD TO BE A REHEARSED THRILL...



ZACH! WE JUST LEARNED THAT TOMMY CAUSED THE WRECK THAT KILLED MAMA! HIS MISSING JEANNIE WAS NO ACCIDENT!

WHA...!



BEFORE HANK CAN STOP HIM, ZACH SWINGS UP TOWARD THE TOP OF THE TENT...

NO, ZACH! LET THE POLICE HANDLE IT!



BUT ZACH COLINO IS NOT TO BE RESTRAINED. HE CLIMBS UP AFTER THE KILLER...

I...I THINK ZACH KNOWS! I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!



TOMMY SEES THE REVENGE BURNING IN ZACH'S EYES... HE STEPS BACK...





BUT HE STEPS TOO FAR ...

AIIEEEE!

AND FALLS TO HIS DEATH ...

DON'T LOOK,  
HELEN!

OOOHH!

LATER...

WE FOUND A NAME  
AND NUMBER IN HIS  
POCKET...JULES  
BORMAN, MADISON  
7651!

LOOKS LIKE MR.  
BORMAN WILL HAVE A  
LOT OF QUESTIONS  
TO ANSWER!

AND I JUST ASKED YOUR  
SISTER A QUESTION, TOO,  
HANK...AND SHE SAID "YES!"  
WE'RE GOING TO LIVE IN  
CONNECTICUT!

I'VE DECIDED  
I DON'T WANT  
TO BE A 'FLYER'  
AFTER ALL!

GOOD IDEA! BY THE WAY, MISS  
HARRISON... COULD THE  
WHIRLING CIRCUS INTEREST  
YOU IN A NEW IRON-BOUND  
CONTRACT...FOR LIFE?

I ACCEPT,  
MR. WHIRLING  
... WITH  
PLEASURE!

A PLEDGE **DELL** COMIC TO PARENTS

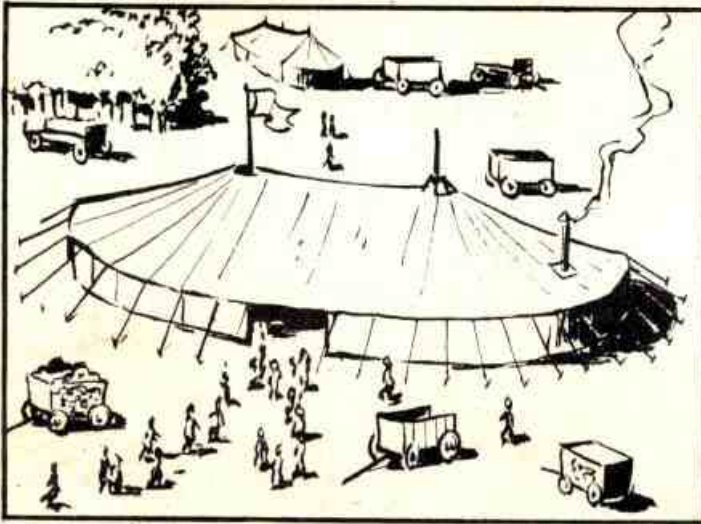
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# CIRCUS CHOW



Circus men and women work hard and eat heartily. Meals, warmed on modern steam tables, are served under the canvas of the dining tent for performer and laborer alike.



The circus kitchen operates on a tight schedule. A special flag is raised on one of the tent poles when each meal is being served, but after it is lowered, nobody can get a bite to eat.



The dining tent is the first one up after unloading begins in the early dawn of the circus day. Breakfast is served immediately. Lunch is from eleven until twelve, and dinnertime is held from four-thirty to six.



Ponderous animals have ponderous appetites, and a large portion of circus food is hay. It must be kept on hand to feed horses, giraffes, camels, and elephants.



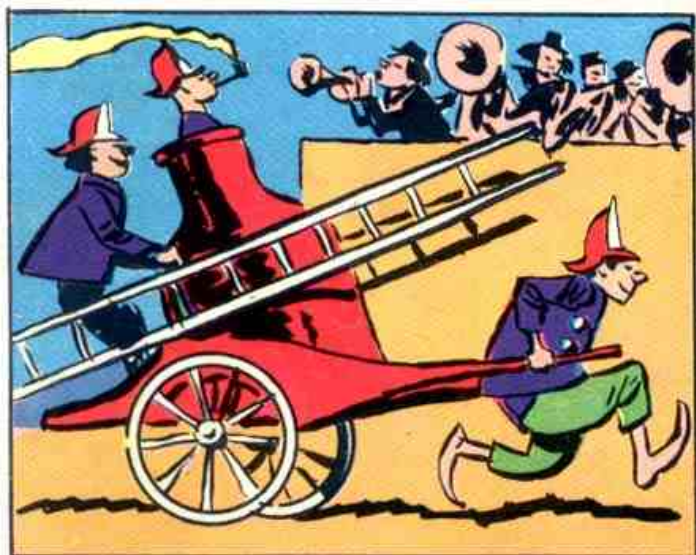
Fresh meat is also purchased to feed the big cats. A full-grown lion or tiger can consume fourteen pounds per day, while the smaller cats, such as leopards, eat less.



# BIG-TOP BUFFOONERY



Here come the clowns with their painted faces and colorful costumes. Circus clowns spend many hours thinking up and trying out their gags. When they appear under the big top, their pranks have been rehearsed to perfection.



Some routines, such as the clown fire department and the clown band, require props and several participating clowns. These group acts are called production numbers.



The circus name for clown is "joey." This term came from the nickname of Joseph Grimaldi, a theatrical clown of long ago, about whom Charles Dickens wrote a book.



People often wonder if the constant application of grease paint and make-up is hard on the complexion of a clown. It probably is not, as clowns get a facial beauty treatment every time their make-up is applied.



The circus "joey" may change his costume several times during the course of a performance, but he will never change his face because it is his own personal trademark. No other clown will copy it.